



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Omaha District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application No: 199640437

Applicant: Wyoming Department of Transportation

Waterway: Brooks Lake Creek and Wetlands

Issue Date: March 29, 2005

Wyoming Regulatory Office 2232 Dell Range Blvd., Suite 210 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Omaha District, Corps of Engineers, Wyoming Regulatory Office will be holding a public meeting on the pending permit application of the Wyoming Department of Transportation, 5300 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82009, under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, for the upgrade and rehabilitation of a portion of U.S. Highway 287/26 between Dubois and Moran, Wyoming. The meeting will be held:

APRIL 13, 2005

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Wyoming Department of Transportation

Resident Engineers Office

1040 Evans Road

Jackson, Wyoming 83002

(Approx. 9 miles south of Jackson - see attached maps for location)

The meeting is being held to provide the public an opportunity for a question and answer session relative to the permitting process as it relates to the proposed action. A Corps representative and Wyoming Department of Transportation representative will be present to address questions.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the project is to upgrade and rehabilitate 37.7 miles of U.S. Highway 287/26 from Moran to 12 miles west of the Town of Dubois to safely accommodate current and projected future traffic through 2025 in a manner that will allow for reasonable maintenance and support National Forest management goals for the lands adjacent to the roadway. An Environmental Impact Statement was completed and the Federal Highway Administration issued a Record of Decision February 14, 2004. The Corps participated as a cooperating agency in the formulation of that document and intends to rely upon it, as well as additional information submitted with the permit application, to render a decision on the applicant's request.

The 37.7-mile project is proposed to be constructed in 5 phases. These phases include (from west to east): the Buffalo Fork River Section, Rosie's Ridge Section, Fourmile Meadows Section, Togwotee Pass Section and Brooks Lake Section. The applicant has requested specific authorization of the Brooks Lake Section of the overall highway corridor project to permanently discharge dredge and fill material into 3.458 acres jurisdictional scrub/shrub and emergent slope and riverine wetlands, 0.06 acres of other waters of the U.S. as well as temporarily impact 0.103 acres of other waters of the U.S. for construction activities. They also propose the impact of 0.37 acres of non-jurisdictional (isolated) wetlands. The Corps is also considering the conditional authorization of a maximum total of 36.032 acres of wetlands and additional discharges in other waters of the United States, which includes the impacts described above for the Brooks Lake section. A public notice for the permit application was issued February 8, 2005 with a closing date for comments of March 9, 2005. Public Notices issued by the Wyoming Regulatory Office can also be obtained by visiting its web site at <https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-rwy/Wyoming.htm>

The application identifies the maximum proposed impacts from the overall project to waters of the U.S., including wetlands, as well as detailed designs for the first phase: the Brooks Lake Section. The Corps is evaluating the overall project associated with this permit and, if determined to comply with Regulatory requirements, will provisionally approve the overall corridor proposal and associated design criteria to be applied to the highway project as well as specifically evaluate, and if warranted approve, the Brooks Lake Section. Subsequent phases of the project will be submitted for specific review and approval under a permit amendment as they are designed.

The project is located in the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests as well as Teton National Park, Fremont and Teton Counties, Wyoming.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions concerning the proposed public meeting should be addressed to Mr. Chandler Peter, Project Manager, Wyoming Regulatory Office, 2232 Dell Range Boulevard, Suite 210, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82009, (307) 772-2300, or chandler.j.peter@usace.army.mil

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